



Department of Justice

Acting United States Attorney David Capp Northern District of Indiana

E. Ross Adair Federal Building & United States Courthouse
1300 South Harrison Street, Room 3128
Fort Wayne, IN 46802-3489

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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www.usdoj.gov/usao/inn/

CONTACT: Mary L. Hatton

PHONE: (219) 937-5603

Fax: (219) 852-2770

TWO ARRESTED IN CONNECTION WITH ILLEGAL MACHINE GUN

Fort Wayne, IN—The United States Attorney's Office announced the arrest of HECTOR HENRIQUEZ, age 42, and AARON MANFREDONIA, age 18, both of Fort Wayne, Indiana, pursuant to a two count Indictment. Henriquez is charged in count one of the Indictment with possessing an unregistered machine gun from on or about September 5, 2007, to on or about September 14, 2007. Both Henriquez and Manfredonia are charged in count two with transferring an unregistered machine gun on or about September 14, 2007. The Indictment also seeks the forfeiture of a machine gun, truck, ammunition and a gun case.

Both Henriquez and Manfredonia were arrested by Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms & Explosives agents in Fort Wayne today, October, 4, 2007.

The United States Attorney's Office also confirmed that a federal search warrant was executed today on the premises of 2325 Juliette Avenue, Fort Wayne, Indiana, in connection with these arrests.

"ATF is committed to apprehending criminals that threaten the safety of our communities by trafficking in illegal firearms. The suppliers of illegal weapons do so at their own peril; if they ignore the law, we'll ensure that they feel the full strength of the federal criminal justice system," said James Cronin, Resident Agent in Charge of the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives, Fort Wayne Field Division.

This charge was filed as the result of an investigation by the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms & Explosives, the Indiana State Police, the Fort Wayne Police Department, and the Allen County Sheriff's Department. This case has been assigned to and will be prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorneys Robert N. Trgovich and Lovita Morris King.

The specific sentence in each case to be imposed upon conviction will be determined by the judge after a consideration of federal sentencing statutes and the Federal Sentencing Guidelines.

The United States Attorney's Office emphasized that an Indictment is merely an allegation and that all persons charged are presumed innocent until and unless proven guilty in court.

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